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		s.	d.	s.	d.	
LISBURN, Feb. 22 ^d , 1814.	{ Oats,.....	8	0	to	8	6 per cwt. of 112 lbs.
	{ Oatmeal,..	16	3	to	16	6 per cwt. of 120 lbs.
	{ Potatoes,..	1	4	to	1	7 per cwt. of 112 lbs.

		s.	d.	s.	d.	
BELFAST, Feb. 25 th , 1814.	{ Wheat,....	15	0	to	15	6 per cwt. of 112 lbs.
	{ Barley,....	10	0	to	11	0 per cwt. of 112 lbs.
	{ Oats,.....	8	6	to	9	0 per cwt. of 112 lbs.
	{ Oatmeal,..	15	11	to	16	3 per cwt. of 112 lbs.
	{ Potatoes,..	4		to	0	0 per stone.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THE opening of the continent, or the rumours of peace, have not yet produced effects to the degree, which were anticipated. Raw materials and manufactured articles have risen, on speculation; but the demand from abroad, so as to produce effective sales, has been limited, in great measure, owing to the exhausted state of the continent, from the desolating effects of the war, and the exactions both of allies and enemies. The news of the American embargo, and of the proposed negotiation for peace at Gottenburgh, operated in England to produce speculation in American merchandize. Much jockeyship took place, and many expresses passed in different directions; but the accounts were so fluctuating, and so much uncertainty prevailed, that after many rapid moves, things returned pretty much to the old state of inactivity. Peace with the United States appears at a great distance, when the many difficulties arising from an amicable adjustment of neutral and maritime claims, and the rights of American citizenship, are taken into account. In the mean time, the embargo, which is said to be strictly enforced, will protect the infant manufactures of America, and injure the trade of the British Isles, by withholding cotton wool and flaxseed: the poor man's luxury, tobacco, will be also enhanced, to the abridgment of the comforts of the lower classes of the community.

Little business was done at the late linen market in Dublin. There was not an assortment of low and middle priced linens: the sales in the two preceding months having lessened the stock of those kinds very much, and the severe weather prevented the receiving of a supply from the North. Few buyers attended, and they were by no means inclined to purchase largely at the present prices. Considerable quantities of fine linens made up in pieces of $6\frac{1}{2}$ yards, after the German manner, have lately been sent to the West Indies, for the purpose of supplying the South American market.

The Scotch exporting merchants are again trying to have the duty on foreign linens warehoused in Great Britain, wholly drawn back, on exportation. The linen houses in Glasgow who last year opposed this measure, have now given way, on the principle that in the event of a general peace, foreign linens will find their way to the colonies, and that it is better that the competition between them and the home manufacture, should in preference take place, rather at home, than abroad. The linen merchants at Perth have been inclined to compromise, and consent to abate five per cent, out of the fifteen now retained. Meetings of the trade have been held at Belfast and Ballymena, in which it was resolved to use strenuous exertions against any alteration in the duty. To unbiassed uninterested spectators, reason appears to be on the other side. We can only ask on a selfish principle, or plead excessive taxation, the result of protracted wars, enhancing the prices of our manufacture, as the only plea for asking for a protecting duty against foreign linens on their exportation. The public spirit of this country is not sufficiently high to proclaim this unwelcome truth to the board of trade.

Last month gold fell to £5 8 per oz. in London, but silver retained the price of 7s. 6d. per oz., and now exceeds its former comparative value with gold. There is a fallacy in the argument, that gold and silver are mere articles of merchandize, and

consequently, their rise is no proof of the depreciation of our paper currency. The demand for these metals is very trifling, except for the purpose of coin, and they are exported from one country to another, merely to supply the inequalities of exchange, which in great measure arise from the different value of the circulating medium in the respective countries, and thus they may pretty accurately measure in their rise and fall the value of paper money.

Much outcry has taken place lately in the public prints on the bad faith of the French in limiting the cash payments in the bank of Paris to a certain extent per day. We have too generally one rule to judge for ourselves, and another for our enemies. The bank of Paris, with their country invaded, and the enemy almost at the gates, limit their issues of cash; this is called a breach of faith with their creditors, and is represented as an act of national bankruptcy. In 1797, the national banks of England and Ireland were protected from issuing any cash, and they have since merely exchanged one set of promises for another. The private banks in Great Britain and Ireland have followed the example. By what name does modern casuistry denominate this line of proceeding? In reference to the state of affairs both with us and in the country over which he rules, well might Bonaparte exclaim some considerable time ago, "A paper money is the greatest enemy of social order."

On the state of finance and of the national debt, a well written book has been lately published by Dr. Hamilton, Professor of Natural Philosophy in the Mareschal College and University of Aberdeen. It exhibits clear and accurate statements necessary to be read by all, who study the Statistics of a country, and shows the fallacy of the sinking fund, or the system of borrowing and paying at the same time; and of the calculations of compound interest, which are adapted to puzzle those who will not be at the trouble of entering into exact computation, while its wonders astonish the ignorant, like tricks performed with a magic lantern. But all these contrivances tend to keep up the popular delusion of a bloated and unreal prosperity.

Yet, in the midst of all attempts to keep up flattering prospects, pauperism in England gains ground, and the number of those supported by the poor rates is rapidly increasing. Ireland never having arrived at a great height of prosperity, feels the difficulties of the times in a less degree, and never having risen high, has a shorter space to fall; but in England, the change from better to worse, in the descending series of national progression, is severely felt. The main spring of public spirit is broken, and even the cause of national liberty is endangered from the vastly increasing number of those who have lost their independence, and are forced to submit to the degradation of soliciting parochial aid.

"Ill fares the land, to hast'ning ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates, and men decay.
For a bold peasantry, their country's pride,
When once destroy'd, can never be supplied."

Exchange on London has continued through this month, with occasional fluctuations, from 4 to $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

FOR MARCH, 1814.

In this month, Mars takes the place of Venus as an evening star, and Jupiter, in the opposite heavens, decorates the eastern sky. Mercury is in a favourable position in the middle of the month.

On the 3d, the Moon is on the meridian at two minutes past ten, having directly under her the small stars in the head of the Hydra; to the east of her we notice the first of the Lion and Jupiter.

On the 5th, is full Moon, at a quarter past seven in the morning, consequently she appears in the eastern horizon soon after Sun set, rising under the Lion, being in the space between this constellation and the Virgin, the second of the latter rising under and soon after her.